



Service Priorities and Programmes Electronic Presentations

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Environmental Scanning of Anti-suicidal Measures for in-patient non-psychiatric wards in NTEC

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Introduction

Hanging is amongst the most common methods of suicide in hospital. Restricting access to the means of suicide is effective in preventing suicide, particularly impulsive suicide, as it gives those contemplating suicide more time to reconsider. In NTEC, there was annual exercise that requires nurse managers and related staff to review on hospital security and environmental scanning checklist for facilities with risk of patient suicide, and return the checklist to local hospital administration and cluster security office. However, staffs who perform the scanning may not understand the requirements. Despite an annex on facility related provision list of specific design considerations at non-psychiatric wards to minimize ligature points for hanging for prevention of inpatient suicide has established by the HA Central Committee on Hospital Security in 2013 and routine safety walk rounds were conducted, there was still lack of a cluster standard on the facility provided. There were still 2 cases hanged in the toilet in NTEC in 2014. Gaps related to ownership and monitoring of environmental risk reduction was noted.

Objectives

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Methodology

-With the support from cluster management, consensus is built among administration, security, facilities management, nursing and quality & safety teams.
-Oneoff environmental risk screening round with concerted effort of multi-disciplinary team of adm

Result

-Total 87 wards with 515 targeted locations were visited.

-Replacement of 718 cloth hooks and 136 curtain tracks with collapsible ones were installed.

-High cost items to be rectified in one go were submitted to rolling plan for Bidding of SH8083MM Funded